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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Policy decisions of Governments are made after receiving representations. Some representations have already been received in this behalf. The Government decided not to raise the age of retirement as a general rule.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Sir, may I point out that sufficient time was not given for representations to be made? We should not come to a hasty decision. May I request the Government to defer decision in any specific form on this issue?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The decision has already been taken. But, if further representations are made, they would also be looked into.

SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Sir, is there a proposal to treat teachers in Government service on a par with those employed in other places in regard to the raising of the age of retirement?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : We have made an exception in the case of technical personnel, and included teachers under 'technical personnel'.

Bus Fares

* 63 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the fact that the bus fares in private sector have been increased by private owners; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed tr be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) & (*b*) Yes, Sir, but the increase was found to be within the prescribed limits except on a few routes where prompt action was taken to bring the fares within the permissible limits.

SRI K. S. ABDUL WAHAB : Is it a fact, Sir, that the Government are considering the question of raising the fares in the Government transport buses?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : We have no such proposal under consideration. But the new levies made by the Government of India in respect of motor vehicles, chassis, spare parts, petrol, etc., will increase the cost of operation very much. That will have to be considered.

Elementary School Teachers

* 64 Q.—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any instances of unemployment of permanent teachers of elementary schools of the Madurai District Board due to wrong postings have been brought to the notice of the Government; and

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(*b*) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Basic Schools

* 65 *Q.*—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of basic schools in this State as on 1st August 1962;

(*b*) the number of teachers employed in these institutions; and

(*a*) the number of basic schools in this State as on 1st August 1962?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : (*a*) 4,360.

(*b*) 24,147 (as on 31st March 1962).

(*c*) 7,37,985 (as on 31st March 1962).

Details as on 1st August 1962 are not available.

SRI M. RAJAH IYER : Sir, are facilities for retraining non-basic teachers continued so that they may serve in basic schools, as there are a number of teachers who are not basic trained and technically disqualified to handle classes in basic schools? May I know whether the facilities for retraining them are there so that they may be eligible for employment in basic schools?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : The facilities are there. But the facilities are to be availed of, when there is need for them.

திரு. க. அன்பழகன்: தலைவர் அவர்களே, ஆதாரப் பள்ளிகள் இப்போது நடத்தப்பட்டு வருகிற முறைப்படி மேலும் நடத்தப்படுவதாக இருக்கிறதா? அல்லது அதைப்பற்றித் தீர்மானிக்க வேண்டிய நிலைமையில் அரசாங்கம் இருக்கிறதா?

கனம் திரு. எம். பக்தவத்சலம்: அதைப்பற்றி நன்றாக ஆராய்ந்து தீர்மானிக்கவேண்டியதாய் இருக்கிறது.

State Transport Buses

* 66 *Q.*—SRI G. KRISHNAMOORTHY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any time-limit has been prescribed for running of City Transport buses from terminus to terminus; and

(*b*) if so, whether the need to stop sufficiently at stoppage is taken into account in fixing such time-limit?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : (*a*) Yes, Sir.

(*b*) Yes, Sir.